

REMARKS

It is submitted, the present amendment together with these accompanying remarks renders the above-referenced application allowable. Therefore, reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding objections and rejection is respectfully requested.

The indication that dependent claims 2-5 are directed to allowable subject matter is noted with appreciation. It is also noted that upon obviating the questioned language with regard to base claim 1, claim 1 is also considered allowable. Accordingly, in connection with our review of base claim 1, several revisions were made thereto to remove the informality noted in the outstanding objection thereto. Specifically, the expression "said passivation layers", at two locations of base claim 1, was accordingly corrected to the expression "said passivation layer," consistent with the set-forth limitation to which it refers in the claim. Also, the two expressions therein containing the term "predetermined" have been revised accordingly to remove any concerns directed thereto. Namely, with regard to the expression "... said fuse through a predetermined fuse opening. ...," it has been accordingly revised, for purposes of clarification, to the expression "... a fuse through a corresponding fuse opening" With regard to this, please note that the previously existing term "said fuse" was changed to "a fuse" in order to avoid any question of proper antecedent basis directed thereto. With regard to the expression "... change predetermined characteristics ...," the term "predetermined" was deleted therefrom as being unnecessary, thereby removing any previously held concerns directed thereto. It should be noted that such changes as that made with regard to independent claim 1 were, likewise, effected in independent claim 6 and also in dependent claim 5, regarding the term "predetermined," thereby also obviating any

previously held concerns directed thereto. Accordingly, in view of the above made corrective revisions to the claims including the editorial clarifying revisions thereto, any and all previously addressed matters, insofar as the outstanding objection to the claims is concerned, have been rendered moot. Therefore, reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding objection is respectfully requested.

Applicants also note with appreciation the indication that intervening claim 8 and dependent claims 9, 11 and 12 are considered as containing allowable subject matter and that these claims would also be deemed allowable upon being re-presented in an appropriate self-contained format. Accordingly, the allowable subject matter of intervening claim 8 was incorporated into that of the corresponding independent claim 6 thereof, thereby rendering claim 6 and the corresponding dependent claims 7 and 9-12 allowable. It should be noted, also, since the subject matter of claim 8 has been incorporated into that of base claim 6 thereof, claim 8 has been accordingly canceled and, further, dependent claim 9 was amended so as to instead be dependent on claim 6. Incidentally, an editorial revision was implemented in dependent claim 11 so as to properly refer to the set forth "second wirings" so as to be consistent with the related expression in base claim 6. Further, a minor typographical error was discovered with regard to dependent claim 12 and was accordingly corrected hereinabove.

In consideration of the indication that original claim 11 (directly dependent on claim 6) was also considered as being allowable except for the informalities/objection made to base claim 6, new claim 13 is being submitted with this amendment, which is a re-presenting of original claim 11 in an appropriate self-contained format and, also, is inclusive of the remedial revisions implemented in claim 6 as well as the correction of the expression "said second wiring is formed" to

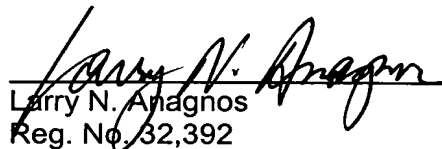
the expression "said second wirings are formed," consistent with that implemented in claim 11. Accordingly, favorable action with regard to newly presented independent claim 13 is also respectfully requested.

It is submitted, in view of the above-made amendments to base claim 6, which renders that claim along with the dependent claims thereof allowable, the previously standing rejection of claims 6 and 10 under 35 USC §102(e) in view of Kawakita et al as well as the rejection of claim 7 under 35 USC §103(a) over the teachings of Kawakita et al have been rendered moot.

Therefore, in view of the above-made amendments to the claims together with these accompanying remarks, favorable action on all of the currently pending claims, i.e., claims 1-7 and 9-13, and an early formal notification of allowability of the above-identified application is respectfully requested.

To the extent necessary, applicants petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR §1.136. Please charge any shortage in the fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including Extension of Time fees, to the Deposit Account of Antonelli, Terry, Stout & Kraus, LLP, Dep. Acct. No. 01-2135 (843.41648VX1), and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,
ANTONELLI, TERRY, STOUT & KRAUS, LLP



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